

Max's Mathematical Mission: The Problem-Solver's Diary

Learning objective: To solve multi-step word problems involving the four operations, applying reasoning skills to real-world contexts.

Max the monkey is helping his friends calculate costs and quantities for their upcoming forest festival! Use this template to break down the word problems. Follow the 'Max Method': 1. Identify the key numbers. 2. Choose your operation (+, -, ×, ÷). 3. Show your working out clearly. 4. Write your final answer with the correct units (e.g., £, kg, or items).

Word bank: calculation · operation · quotient · product · difference · sum · total · multi-step · reasoning · remainder

1. The Challenge: Write down the word problem here. What information is given and what exactly are you being asked to find out? (2 marks)

2. The Plan: Which operation or operations do you need to use? Explain why you have chosen this method. (2 marks)

3. The Working Out: Use this space to perform your calculations. Remember to show your steps clearly so Max can follow your logic. (3 marks)

4. The Solution: State your final answer clearly, including the correct currency (£) or unit of measurement. (1 mark)

5. The Check: How can you check if your answer makes sense? Did you use the inverse operation or estimation to verify your result? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Try creating your own multi-step word problem involving a budget of £50.00 for the forest festival. Swap with a partner to see if they can solve it using the Max Method!